station. Beat Staff of the Police Stations visits these senior citizens to offer them advice on security measures that should be taken by them and to reassure them.

(ii) During beat and division patrolling, special vigil is maintained around the residences of senior citizens.

(iii) The antecedents of servants and others working with old persons are varified.

(iv) The Chowkidars of the area have been briefed to keep an eye on the residences of this category of persons.

रक्षा संबंधी कल-पुर्जों की आपूर्ति के संबंध में भूतपूर्व सैनिकों को प्राथमिकता दिया जाना

384. **श्री अजीत जोगी:** क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने आयुधशालाओं को रक्षा संबंधी कल-पुर्जों की आपूर्ति किए जाने के मामले में भूतपूर्व सैनिकों के उद्यमों और सहकारी संस्थाओं को प्राथमिकता देने के लिए कोई दिशानिर्देश निर्धारित किए हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या पुनर्वास महानिदेशक द्वारा रक्षा संबंधी कल-पुंजों तथा सहायक सामग्रियों के उत्पादन और उनकी आपूर्ति पर निगरानी रखी जाती है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है?

रक्षा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एन०वी०एन० सोमू): (क) और (ख) रक्षा विभाग द्वारा सेना, नौसेना और वायुसेना के लिए खरीदी जाने वाली निम्न प्रौद्योगिकी मदों की मात्रा का 10 प्रतिशत भूतपूर्व सैनिक उद्यमियों से अधिप्राप्त किए जाने के लिए आरक्षित है बशर्ते कि उनकी गुणवता और कीमत प्रतियोगी हो। लेकिन यह आरक्षण आयुध निर्माणियों, आयुध डिपो, विरचना मुख्यालयों और यूनिटों द्वारा स्थानीय खरीद के माध्यम से खरीदी जा रही मदों पर लागू नहीं है।

(ग) जी, नहीं।

(घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Countries supporting India for Security Council Seat

385. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) which are the countries who support India for the Asian seat in the United Nations Security Council;

(b) whether the Sri Lankan Foreign Minister including diplomats of other countries who met the India's Exteral Affairs Minister recently have shown any interest in this regard; and

(c) what steps Government have taken so far at the diplomtic level and through other channels to elicit support of other countries for India in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) to (c) India's candidature to the non-permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council, for the term 1997-98 has received an encouraging response. The Government of India have taken several steps to apprise other governments of our candidature. These measures include approaches in various capitals and to diplomatic missions in New Delhi, presence in regional summit meetings and interaction through special envoys to foreign capitals and visitors to New Delhi. The Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations is also continuously engaged in this effort, as required.

Rubberisation of National Highways

386. SHRI JOY NADUKKARA: will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any progress in the research on rubberisation of roads, if so the present position thereof;

(b) whether Government would take steps to rubberise more roads, including National Highways;

(c) whether any proposal is pending before the Centre to take up more roads as National Highways in Kerala; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to include M.C. Road in the list of National Highway?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) In pursuance of sanction in March, 1993, of the such scheme for rubberisation of roads, work of laying experimental stretches was completed in March, 1995 and the performance study thereof is still in progress.

(b) in view of (a), it is too early to consider rubberisation of roads.

(c) and (d) Due to meagre allocation of funds during Eighth Five Year Plan, it is difficult to declare more roads as National Highways.

Christian Scheduled Tribes in the All India Services

387. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the polulation of Christian Scheduled Tribes and other Scheduled Tribes in the country;

(b) the number of Christian Scheduled Tribes working in various All India Services; and

(c) the number of non-Christian Scheduled Tribes working in these services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) The population of Christian Scheduled Tribes and other Scheduled Tribes in the country are 36,03,480 and 4,79,63,394 respectively as per 1981 Census. This information for 1991 Census has not yet been compiled.

(b) and (c) The policy of the Government in regard to recruitment of minorities in Central Government services in general, strictly conforms to be provisions of the Constitution. The recruitment rules are framed in such a way that recruitment is based on selection on merit providing equality of opportunity so that no discrimination is made against any section of the population. Since the recruitments are not made on the basis of the caste, community, religion, etc. no data on recruitment on above basis is maintained. Therefore, no information is available for parts (b) & (c) of the question, as such it cannot be furnished.

Creation of Additional Berths for Mangalore Port

388. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to develop Mangalore Port to have additional berths to meet the demand of Cargo; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T. G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) and (b) There are prospects for development of additional berths for POL and dry bulk commodities at New Mangalore Port. The proposals, however, are yet to be firmed up.

Opening of New Psssport Office in Andhra Pradesh

389. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Ministaer of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS bc pleased to statae

(a) the number of Passport applications received by Passport Offices in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) whether Government have any proposal to open another Passport Office either at Visakhapatnam or Vijaywada to meet the demand; and

(c) if not, the reasons, therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) The number of applications received in Andhra Pradesh (Passport Office,